



13 December 2010

RAIN IMPACT ON CURRAGH MINE

Recent heavy rain in central Queensland has affected operations at the Curragh mine. Heavy rain in the region on 2 December resulted in operations being temporarily suspended due to flood water cutting access roads to the mine. Limited mine operations recommenced on 4 December including construction of the new coal handling and preparation plant.

Mine operations at Curragh, Curragh East and Curragh North progressively returned to normal following the flood peak in the Mackenzie River on 7 December.

Further heavy rain on 11 December has affected operations, however, all access roads remain open and operations are continuing.

Production of metallurgical coal from Curragh for 2010/11 financial year will be reduced as a result of the extreme weather conditions in recent weeks.

Wesfarmers Resources Managing Director, Stewart Butel, said that while mining operations were returning to normal the rain has had an impact on coal production.

“Curragh’s full year metallurgical coal sales volume is now in the range 6.0 to 6.5 million tonnes, subject to a return to more normal weather conditions for the remainder of the year,” said Mr Butel. “The revised sales volume compares to the recent forecast of 6.2 to 6.7 million tonnes.”

Curragh declared force majeure on all export and domestic contracts on 2 December which remains in force.

For further information contact:

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